(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the preventive measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Government keeps a constant watch on developments which have a bearing on India's security and is taking all appropriate steps to safeguard the security of the country.

Scrapping the Bidding Process for Joint Ventures in Oil

891. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minsiter of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to scrap the bidding process for joint ventures in oil and propose to opt for another method;

(b) if so, the details of the new system method Government propose to opt;

(c) whether the oil reserves and production is falling steeply; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take in the direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) and (d) The decline in crude production was arrested in 1992-93 and the production of crude has increased since then. In order to improve the rate of reserve accretion in the currrent plan, Government have approved an Accelerated Programe for Exploration at an estimated cost of Rs. 6500 crores.

Indian Protest Against Executions in Nigeria

892. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the recent executions in Nigeria of a number of well-known human rights activists;

(b) whether any formal protest about these executions have been posted with Nigerian authorities on India's behalf; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to withdraw our representation in Nigera in view of these developments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India is a party to the Queenstown Declaration of the Commonwealth Heads of Government of November 11, 1995 suspending Nigeria from the Commonwealth.

(c) No, Sir.

Import of Petroleum Products

893. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of petroleum and petroleum products proposed to be imported during 1995-96;

(b) the total outlay of foreign excchange on account of such imports;

(c) the agencies under the auspices of which these imports have been and are being undertaken; and

(d) whether, in the finalisation of the import arrangements, these agencies have been recipients of commissions or have been called upon to pay commissions to agencies overseas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND